

Malaysia And The Philippines Urged To Explore Economic Cooperation
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KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 29 (Bernama) -- Malaysia and the Philippines are urged to explore the possibility of economic cooperation in southern Philippines in areas such as plantations, finance and mining following the signing of the peace agreement between the latter and Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) on Oct 15.

The chairman of the international bureau of Perkasa, a Malay right wing group, Datuk Mustapha Yaakub said the economic cooperation was seen to be capable of contributing to the economic development of the people in the area.

"Malaysia has the expertise and skills including in the plantation, financial and mining sectors which can be applied in southern Philippines where the majority of the population are Muslims.

"This cooperation will benefit both countries from the economic spillover besides championing the welfare of the Muslims in southern Philippines and improving the living condition of the community which had been shackled by warfare for four decades," he told Bernama.

The Phillipine government and the MILF officially signed the framework of a peace agreement to end the more than 40-year-old conflict in southern Philippines.

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